

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 29 2008

Application Serial No.: 10/553,563
Attorney Docket No.: 26281-11A

Examiner: M. Moore
Art Unit: 1796

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method for modifying a surface of a solid material, comprising:

preparing a fuel gas by adding an alcohol compound to a silicon-containing compound having a flash point of 0 to 100°C and a boiling point of 105 to 250°C, wherein the amount of the alcohol compound added is in the range of 0.01 to 30 mol% when the total amount of the silicon-containing compound is defined as 100 mol%.

carrying out a silicatizing treatment on the surface of the solid material by wholly or partially blowing a flame of the fuel gas that contains a silicon-containing compound having a flash point of 0 to 100°C and a boiling point of 105 to 250°C onto the surface of the solid material.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound has at least one of a nitrogen atom, a halogen atom, a vinyl group, and an amino group in molecule or on a terminal of the molecule.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound is selected from the group consisting of hexamethyldisilazane, vinyltrimethoxysilane, vinyltriethoxysilane, trifluoropropyl trimethoxysilane, trifluoropropyl trichlorosilane, 3-aminopropyl trimethoxysilane, 3-aminopropyl triethoxysilane, and 3-chloropropyl trimethoxysilane, which is used independently or in combination of two or more of them.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound is a mixture of a silicon-containing compound containing a nitrogen atom and a halogen atom in molecule with a silicon-containing compound containing a vinyl group or an amino group on the terminal of the molecule.

5. (Canceled)

(W1646991)

Application Serial No.: 10/553,563
Attorney Docket No.: 26281-11A

Examiner: M. Moore
Art Unit: 1796

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the content of the silicon-containing compound in the fuel gas is in the range of 1×10^{-10} to 10 mol % when the total amount of the fuel gas is defined as 100 mol %.
7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the silicon-containing compound is in a vapor-liquid equilibrium state, and a gaseous part of the silicon-containing compound is mixed in the fuel gas and then combusted.

8-12: (Canceled)

{W1646991}